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Agenda item 124

Programme budget for the biennium 2006-2007

Report of the Fifth Committee

Rapporteur: Ms. Katja **Pehrman** (Finland)

I. Introduction

1. The previous recommendations made by the Fifth Committee to the General Assembly under agenda item 124 appear in the reports of the Committee contained in documents A/60/608 and Corr.1 and Add.1 and 2.

2. For its further consideration of the item, the Committee had before it the report of the Secretary-General on the expenditure authorization for the biennium 2006-2007 (A/60/889) and the related report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions (A/60/7/Add.40).

3. The Fifth Committee considered the question of expenditure authorization for the biennium 2006-2007 at its 62nd, 63rd and 65th meetings, on 20, 23 and 28 June 2006. Statements and observations made in the course of the Committee's consideration of the question are reflected in the relevant summary records (A/C.5/60/SR.62, 63 and 65).

II. Consideration of draft decision A/C.5/60/L.44

4. At its 65th meeting, on 28 June 2006, the Committee had before it a draft decision entitled "Expenditure authorization for the biennium 2006-2007" (A/C.5/60/L.44), which was submitted by the Chairman of the Committee.

5. Before the adoption of the draft decision, the representatives of the United States of America, Japan and Australia made statements in explanation of position (see A/C.5/60/SR.65).

6. At the same meeting, the Committee adopted draft decision A/C.5/60/L.44 without a vote (see para. 8 below).

06-41222 (E) 290606

7. After the adoption of the draft decision, statements in explanation of position were made by the representatives of South Africa (on behalf of States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Group of 77 and China), Austria (on behalf of States Members of the United Nations that are members of the European Union) and the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland.

III. Recommendation of the Fifth Committee

8. The Fifth Committee recommends to the General Assembly the adoption of the following draft decision:

Expenditure authorization for the biennium 2006-2007

The General Assembly, having considered the report of the Secretary-General on the expenditure authorization for the biennium 2006-2007[1] and the related report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions,[2] decides to authorize expenditure of the remaining funds appropriated in Assembly resolution 60/247 A.

[1] A/60/889.
[2] A/60/7/Add.40.

United Nations A/60/608/Add.4

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Programme budget for the biennium 2006-2007

Report of the Fifth Committee

Rapporteur: Ms. Katja **Pehrman** (Finland)

I. Introduction

1. The previous recommendations made by the Fifth Committee to the General Assembly under agenda item 124 appear in the reports of the Committee contained in documents A/60/608 and Corr.1 and Add.1-3.

2. The Fifth Committee resumed its consideration of the item at its 64th and 66th meetings, on 27 and 30 June 2006. Statements and observations made in the course of the Committee's consideration of the item are reflected in the relevant summary records (A/C.5/60/SR.64 and 66).

3. For its further consideration of the item, the Committee had before it the following documents:

(a) Report of the Secretary-General on estimates in respect of special political missions, good offices and other political initiatives authorized by the General Assembly and/or Security Council: United Nations Assistance Mission in Afghanistan (A/60/585/Add.3);

(b) Report of the Secretary-General on estimates in respect of special political missions, good offices, and other political initiatives authorized by the General Assembly and/or Security Council [International Independent Investigation Commission/United Nations Office in Timor-Leste] (A/60/585/Add.4);

(c) Reports of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions (A/60/7/Add.39 and 41).

06-41263 (E) 060706

II. Consideration of draft resolution A/C.5/60/L.63

4. At its 66th meeting, on 30 June, the Committee had before it a draft resolution entitled "Estimates in respect of special political missions, good offices and other political initiatives authorized by the General Assembly and/or Security Council" (A/C.5/60/L.63), which was submitted by the Chairman on the basis of informal consultations coordinated by the representative of Namibia.

5. At the same meeting, the Committee adopted draft resolution A/C.5/60/L.63 without a vote (see para. 6).

III. Recommendation of the Fifth Committee

6. The Fifth Committee recommends to the General Assembly the adoption of the following draft resolution:

Estimates in respect of special political missions, good offices and other political initiatives authorized by the General Assembly and/or the Security Council

The General Assembly,

Having considered the reports of the Secretary-General on the estimates in respect of special political missions, good offices and other political initiatives authorized by the General Assembly and/or the Security Council,[1] as well as the related reports of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions,[2]

1. *Takes note* of the reports of the Secretary-General;[1]

2. *Endorses* the conclusions and recommendations of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions;[2]

3. *Reaffirms* the relevant provisions of section I of its resolution 60/255 of 8 May 2006, and requests the Secretary-General to ensure their full implementation;

4. *Approves* the budgets of $59,647,600 gross ($54,744,100 net) for the United Nations Mission in Afghanistan for the period from 1 April to 31 December 2006, $18,971,400 gross ($17,020,000 net) for the International Independent Investigation Commission for the period from 16 June to 31 December 2006 and $5,776,200 gross ($5,253,500 net) for the United Nations Office in Timor-Leste for the period from 21 June to 31 August 2006;

5. *Takes note* of the unencumbered balances in the amounts already appropriated for the three missions totalling $6,043,400;

6. *Decides* to approve a charge of $51,908,500, corresponding to the unassigned balance against the provision for special political missions, appropriated under section 3, Political affairs, of the programme budget for the biennium 2006-2007;

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[1] A/60/585/Add.3 and Add.4.

[2] A/60/7/Add.39 and Add.41.

7. *Also decides* to appropriate, under the procedures provided for in paragraph 11 of annex I to its resolution 41/213 of 19 December 1986, an amount of $19,065,700 under section 3, Political affairs, and $7,377,600 under section 35, Staff assessment, to be offset by a corresponding amount under income section 1, Income from staff assessment, of the programme budget for the biennium 2006-2007.

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Agenda item 124

Programme budget for the biennium 2006-2007

Report of the Fifth Committee

Rapporteur: Ms. Katja **Pehrman** (Finland)

I. Introduction

1. The previous recommendations made by the Fifth Committee to the General Assembly under agenda item 124 appear in the reports of the Committee contained in documents A/60/608 and Corr.1 and Add.1-4.

2. For its further consideration of the item, the Committee had before it the report of the Secretary-General on revised estimates to the programme budget for the biennium 2006-2007 with regard to additional office accommodation in Geneva for the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights (A/60/899) and the related reports of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions (A/60/7/Add.42).

3. The Fifth Committee resumed its consideration of the item at its 65th and 66th meetings, on 28 and 30 June 2006. Statements and observations made in the course of the Committee's consideration of the question are reflected in the relevant summary record (A/C.5/60/SR.65 and 66).

II. Consideration of draft decision A/C.5/60/L.65

4. At its 66th meeting, on 30 June, the Chairman of the Committee proposed a draft decision entitled "Additional office accommodation in Geneva for the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights" (A/C.5/60/L.65).

5. At the same meeting, the Committee adopted draft decision A/C.5/60/L.65 without a vote (see para. 6 below).

06-41434 (E) 060706

III. Recommendation of the Fifth Committee

6. The Fifth Committee recommends to the General Assembly the adoption of the following draft decision:

Additional office accommodation in Geneva for the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights

The General Assembly,

Having considered the report of the Secretary-General entitled "Additional office accommodation in Geneva for the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights: revised estimates to the programme budget for the biennium 2006-2007[1] and the related report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions;[2]

(a) Welcomes with appreciation the intention of the host Government to contribute financial resources towards meeting the initial rental obligations as well as the cost of exterior perimeter security protection for compliance with Headquarters Minimum Operating Security Standards;

(b) Authorizes the Secretary-General to enter into commitments of up to $4,975,000, comprising $2,191,500 under section 28E, Administration, Geneva, $1,592,800 under section 32, Construction, alteration, improvement and major maintenance, $1,191,600 under section 33, Safety and security, and $232,000 under section 35, Staff assessment, to be offset by an equal amount under income section 1, Income from staff assessment under the programme budget for the biennium 2006-2007.

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[1] A/60/899.

[2] A/60/7/Add.42.

United Nations A/60/608/Add.6

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Agenda item 124

Programme budget for the biennium 2006-2007

Report of the Fifth Committee

Rapporteur: Ms. Katja **Pehrman** (Finland)

I. Introduction

1. The previous recommendations made by the Fifth Committee to the General Assembly under agenda item 124 appear in the reports of the Committee contained in documents A/60/608 and Corr.1 and Add.1-5.

2. For its further consideration of the item, the Committee had before it the report of the Secretary-General on the business analysis on the possibility of constructing a new permanent building on the North Lawn (A/60/874) and the related report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions (A/60/7/Add.38).

3. The Fifth Committee resumed its consideration of the item at its 60th, 61st and 66th meetings, on 16, 19 and 30 June 2006. Statements and observations made in the course of the Committee's consideration of the question are reflected in the relevant summary record (A/C.5/60/SR.60, 61 and 66).

II. Consideration of draft resolution A/C.5/60/L.66

4. At its 66th meeting, on 30 June, the Chairman of the Committee proposed a draft resolution entitled "Capital master plan" (A/C.5/60/L.66).

5. At the same meeting, the Committee adopted draft resolution A/C.5/60/L.66 without a vote (see para. 6).

06-42251 (E) 110706

III. Recommendation of the Fifth Committee

6. The Fifth Committee recommends to the General Assembly the adoption of the following draft resolution:

Capital master plan

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 54/249 of 23 December 1999, 55/238 of 23 December 2000, 56/234 and 56/236 of 24 December 2001, 56/286 of 27 June 2002, section II of its resolution 57/292 of 20 December 2002, resolution 59/295 of 22 June 2005, section II of its resolution 60/248 of 23 December 2005, resolution 60/256 of 8 May 2006 and its decision 58/566 of 8 April 2004,

Having considered the second[1] and third[2] annual progress reports of the Secretary-General on the implementation of the capital master plan, the reports of the Secretary-General on viable options for ensuring sufficient parking space at United Nations Headquarters,[3] on plans for three additional conference rooms and viable solutions for allowing natural light into the rooms,[4] on cooperation with the City and State of New York related to the capital master plan,[5] on the status of possible funding arrangements for the capital master plan,[6] on a business analysis of the possibility of constructing a new permanent building on the North Lawn,[7] the note by the Secretary-General transmitting the report of the Board of Auditors on the capital master plan for the biennium ended 31 December 2003,[8] the report of the Board of Auditors for the year ended 31 December 2004,[9] the reports of the Office of Internal Oversight Services on the capital master plan for the period from August 2003 through July 2004[10] and the period from August 2004 through July 2005[11] and the related reports of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions,[12] as well as the oral report by the Chairman of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions,[13]

1. *Reiterates* its serious concern about the hazards, risks and deficiencies of the current conditions of the United Nations Headquarters Building, which endanger the safety, health and well-being of staff, visitors, tourists and delegations, including high-level delegations;

2. *Takes note* of the second[1] and third[2] annual progress reports of the Secretary-General on the implementation of the capital master plan, the reports of the Secretary-General on cooperation with the City and State of New York related to

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[1] A/59/441 and Add.1 and 2.
[2] A/60/550 and Corr.1 and 2 and Add.1.
[3] A/58/712.
[4] A/58/556.
[5] A/58/779.
[6] A/58/729.
[7] A/60/874.
[8] A/59/161.
[9] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Sixtieth Session, Supplement No. 5* (A/60/5 (vol. V)).
[10] A/59/420.
[11] A/60/288.
[12] A/59/556 and A/60/7/Add.38.
[13] See A/C.5/59/SR.54.

the capital master plan,[5] on the status of possible funding arrangements for the capital master plan[6] and on the business analysis of the possibility of constructing a new permanent building on the North Lawn;[7]

3. *Decides* to revert to the consideration of the reports of the Secretary-General on viable options for ensuring sufficient parking space at United Nations Headquarters,[3] on plans for three additional conference rooms and viable solutions for allowing natural light into the rooms,[4] the note by the Secretary-General transmitting the report of the Board of Auditors on the capital master plan for the biennium ended 31 December 2003[8] and the report of the Board of Auditors for the year ended 31 December 2004,[9] the reports of the Office of Internal Oversight Services on the United Nations capital master plan for the period from August 2003 through July 2004[10] and the period from August 2004 through July 2005,[11] at the main part of its sixty-first session;

4. *Notes* the benefits, including economic ones, accruing to host countries from the presence of the United Nations, and the costs incurred;

5. *Stresses* the special role of the host country Government with regard to support for United Nations Headquarters in New York;

6. *Recalls* the current practices of host Governments with regard to support for United Nations headquarters and United Nations bodies located in their territories;

7. *Requests* the Secretary-General to ensure that no action is taken that would preclude any decision that the General Assembly might take on the construction of a new permanent building on the North Lawn at some future date;

8. *Approves*, effective 1 July 2006, the recommended strategy for the implementation of the capital master plan, strategy IV (phased approach), contained in the third annual progress report of the Secretary-General,[2] including the phasing, swing space and cost, and decides to review the updated projected costs at the main part of the sixty-first session;

9. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit proposals to the General Assembly at its sixty-first session, through the Committee on Conferences, on the possible adjustment of meeting schedules, including a change in venue of meetings for the United Nations intergovernmental organs that normally meet at Headquarters for the period of the implementation of the capital master plan;

10. *Stresses* the need for a long-term strategy for office accommodation at Headquarters;

11. *Requests* that a comprehensive study on the feasibility of the proposed construction of a building on the North Lawn, including a number of other factors that have not been included in the business analysis contained in the report of the Secretary-General,[7] on security, architectural, and host city and community issues be included in the context of the proposed programme budget for the biennium 2008-2009;

12. *Requests* the Secretary-General, considering the need to continue to explore ways to increase procurement opportunities for vendors from developing countries and countries with economies in transition, to take the provisions of its resolutions 54/14 of 29 October 1999, 55/247 of 12 April 2001 and 59/288 of

13 April 2005 on procurement reform fully into consideration in the implementation of the capital master plan;

13. *Notes* that the capital master plan office will provide resources to the Office of Internal Oversight Services in order to ensure an appropriate construction audit for the capital master plan, and requests the Secretary-General to report on the findings thereon in the context of the relevant reports, including the annual report of the Office of Internal Oversight Services throughout the phases of the project;

14. *Requests* the Secretary-General to ensure that procurement processes related to the capital master plan are conducted in a transparent manner and in full compliance with relevant General Assembly resolutions;

15. *Welcomes* the establishment of the capital master plan website;

16. *Requests* the Secretary-General ensure that financial disclosure statements are filed by staff involved with the capital master plan in accordance with relevant General Assembly resolutions;

17. *Recognizes* that the cash payment option, based on a one-time assessment or multi-year special assessments, would be the simplest and the most cost-effective approach for meeting the cost of the capital master plan;

18. *Decides* to revert to the issue of the funding plan for the capital master plan, including the credit facilities or instruments referred to in paragraph 35 of the third annual progress report as well as the feasibility of a one-time upfront payment option at the main part of its sixty-first session, and in this context requests the Secretary-General to propose, inter alia, to the General Assembly, at the main part of its sixty-first session, a mechanism that would ensure that Member States that pay their assessed contributions for the capital master plan in full and on time will not bear any financial liabilities and/or other obligations derived from the possible utilization of those credit facilities or instruments;

19. *Also decides* to convert the existing commitment authority of 77 million United States dollars into an appropriation, with assessment on Member States in 2006 on the basis of the regular budget scale of assessment in effect for the year;

20. *Requests* the Secretary-General to report on the implementation of the provisions of the present resolution in the fourth annual progress report on the implementation of the capital master plan to the General Assembly at its sixty-first session.